

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, March 16, 2016, for the purpose of discussing Council Goals.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 8:05p.m. It was held in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Greenbelt Community Center.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V Jordan. Council Member Edward V.J. Putens arrived at 9:05 pm.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager and David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Laura Kressler, PSAC, Bill Orleans, Eric (last name withheld) and Kathleen Gallagher, News Review.

Council Goals

Mayor Jordan indicated this was a follow-up to the December 16, 2015 work session. He stressed the need for the new Council to review the goals. Mayor Jordan hoped Council would develop a prioritized list focused on cost, urgency and benefit/impact for each goal.

Ms. Davis and Ms. Mach noted that their lists included in the meeting packet were things they heard while campaigning, not necessarily their proposed goals.

Mayor Jordan read the eight goals listed a November 25 memo. Ms. Davis suggested the addition of a ninth goal of "Improve and Maintain Infrastructure". Ms. Mach believed this could fall under quality of life but she liked it standing alone.

Mayor Jordan provided a summary of the Council Member suggestions/comments offered at the previous work session as follows:

- Functional analysis, Organizational assessment, SAGE study implementation, Tax incentives, Implement paperless agenda, Move forward with another dog park.*
- Change how we train police officers (community focus vs. military), Focusing on people, Community policing & visibility, Getting basketball hoops back in the City, More positive activities, Bike officers and more visibility. Different employee relations/grievance process, Balanced police training.*
- Implementation of Organizational assessment, Sustainability plan, Bike/pedestrian plan, Toolkit for Economic Development, Enhance planned community, Improve the Theatre. Working with the Friends school, Have Greenbelt children attend Greenbelt schools.*
- Organizational Assessment, Manage change, Infrastructure reserve study, Proactive Economic Development, Outstanding business award, Place making & establish brand, Move forward on bust stop plan, Police body cameras, Develop arts policy, Rental property tax credit, Green solar initiatives.*

- *Make Greenbelt more inclusive, Election process, Transportation/circulator bus, More bus shelters, Electric vehicle charging stations, New fire house, Marketing coordination, Arts & economic development, Create arts district, Performing arts center.*
- *Community & Economic development, Attract businesses, Encourage redevelopment, Implementation strategies, Toolkit, Develop marketing materials, Expand contractor role or hire staff, Roosevelt Center as a destination, Gateway signage, Branding, MD 193 corridor improvements. Better connect Hanover Parkway to the rest of the community.*
- *Increase role for citizens in economic development, Manage change, Realign organization, Performance measures, Succession planning, More transparency, Pay down debt, Lower tax rate, Body cameras for police, Additional dog park.*

Ms. Pope stated that a number of these goals were mentioned by multiple people. She favored a manageable list of condensed goals that Council could achieve in a reasonable timeframe. Ms. Davis liked this idea.

Mr. Roberts wanted to fix the flaws in the City's grievance process. He stated there was a piece of property in Greenbelt West the City could purchase and this was a high priority. Several Council members believed there were challenges with acquiring this property.

Mr. Herling favored the use of ball fields in New Carrollton. He also wanted the City to have more environmentally friendly vehicles.

Ms. Davis suggested better promotion of the City's historic cemeteries.

Mayor Jordan believed the CAR list needed to be prioritized and also the petition list should be accessible on the City website. It was also suggested the advisory board referral status list be on the website.

Ms. Pope believed Council needed to take a look at the Budget and prioritize. She stressed the need for more personnel, but noted that Council never takes anything away.

Mr. Herling suggested that kiosks be installed at each shopping center.

Mr. Putens agreed that Council needed to be careful about staff. He suggested the use of contractors. Mr. Putens stressed the need to prioritize everything. He also expressed concern about the City's aging work force. Mr. Putens agreed with earlier comments that the City consider cuts.

Information Items

Mayor Jordan announced an invite to the Landover bus depot to celebrate National Transit Day on Friday. He reiterated the desire to consolidate budget sessions.

Ms. Davis asked if everyone was getting a magazine from University of Maryland called TERP. She referenced an invitation from the Joseph Gilmore Adult Care Center hosting its annual symposium. She suggested Council watch the MML legislative summary video.

In response to a question, Mr. McLaughlin stated that a WoodSpring Suites Hotel was proposed for the parking lot between the old Jaspers restaurant and Maryland Trade Center I.

Executive Session

Ms. Davis moved that Council conduct this Executive Session in accordance with the General Provisions Article Section 3-305 (b) (1) of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland to discuss a personnel matter. Mr. Putens seconded.

<i>ROLL CALL:</i>	<i>Mr. Herling</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Yes</i>
	<i>Mr. Jordan</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Yes</i>
	<i>Ms. Mach</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Yes</i>
	<i>Ms. Pope</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Yes</i>
	<i>Mr. Putens</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Yes</i>
	<i>Mr. Roberts</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Yes</i>
	<i>Mayor Davis</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The work session ended at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*David E. Moran
Assistant City Manager*